# St John's College Junior Common Room

## The People's Republic of St Giles

Agenda for the 2nd meeting of Michaelmas Term 2015 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2015, 8.30pm, JCR

i/ Minutes of the previous meeting

ii/ Matters arising from the minutes

#### iii/ Officers' reports

#### Academic Affairs Officer: Jess Colston

This week I've met with teh Academic Dean, Ellie Clewlow, to plan the academic feedback sessions next term so we'll be able to bring concrete plans to the next Education Policy committee in 7th week. The study skills sessions for sciences and Specific Learning Difficulties went really well and plenty of pizza was consumed and studying discussed. I'm organising more, one on time management, probably in 6th week, and another on revision and collections in 8th week.

Hope to see you all there, and if you have any academic issues or feedback please get in touch!

#### Access & Admissions Officer: Alex Manby

The last two weeks I've been helping to organise interviews and on Monday we choose the interview helpers- thanks so much to everyone who applied, I wish we could take everyone but we're limited on numbers and have to ensure a subject/gender balance. On Friday we had our first training session and next Monday I'm attending a domestic meting to sort out logistical arrangements. Since the last JCR meeting I also helped with the student-ambassador training session. I've also been liaising with OUSU/College to let them know that the JCR is happy to be part of the Reach Scholar scheme for next year. In other news: Equality Forum has now been rearranged to 18th November at 5pm, this is a great forum to discuss all matters related to equality, and is used to form the basis of the equality committee agenda (so college actually does listen). It's open to the whole JCR, so you should all come!

#### **Discounts Officer: Silas Elliot**

Cards selling like hot cakes. Got some mission burrito tattoos... Get in touch if you want one. If anyone is considering running for discounts officer definitely get in touch! There's a learning curve so worth getting a head start and helping out

#### Domestic Officers: Alice Smalley & Colette Snape

Alice and Colette, tired of the lack of awareness surrounding camp bed rights, have set up a new liberation group to deliver them from their sleepy oppressors. (To be delivered.)

Entz Officers: Kim Myton & Sssuna Golooba-Mutebi

Bop. (To be delivered.)

#### Environment & Ethics Officers: Sally Hayward & Jen Lord

Sally and Jen have embarked on an exciting new quest to discover whether people on other planets are similarly environment-conscious, and to exchange ideas on how best to approach global warming. (To be delivered.)

Equality & Diversity Officer: Claudia Haavik

Claudia has decided that the European Convention on Human Rights is lacking in several key departments: lack of respect for the rights of the individual to have a long warm shower, freedom of glitter, and a greater understanding of the principle of banter. (To be delivered.)

#### Welfare Officers: Rhiannon Rees & Charles Goodman

The last two weeks have gone well. We have had a Welfare Lunch and a TW Tea. Aside from this we have been topping up our sexual health supplies, attending Peer Support supervision, and updating the Peer Support posters. Rohan and Louise have kindly produced Peer Support leaflets that we will all be handing out in the staircases hopefully next week!

#### Women's Officer: Katy Haigh

A hectic week as women's officer after returning from my operation: apologies that I was unable to run the self car evening last Sunday, but thank you to everyone who sent me get well soon messages!

Apologies for the delay distributing sanitary products: this was due to a lack of response from OUSU about buying the products from them under their tax-free scheme.

Well done to everyone who attended the first self defence class and I hope you found it useful! The next session will be Wednesday 11th November, 7pm, in kendrew events room. This is open to all genders and there will be a sign up sheet on the JCR facebook page at the start of 5th week.

Wednesday through Friday of 5th week sees St John's host an exhibition on behalf of It Happens Here; the OUSU affiliated campaign against sexual violence in Oxford. Some of our students from St John's have contributed work to the exhibition, including Siwan Clark, a previous JCR women's officer, who will be singing one evening for the exhibition.

If you're interested in the exhibit please search for 'A Bad Kiss' on Facebook and join the event. Please take the time to go along one evening and support the work of It Happens Here.

On Saturday 14th we will be having a women's self care evening run by Pam and Ellie from Student Life, I hope some of you are able to attend.



#### Equality love xoxo

Vice-President: Blathnaid McCullagh

"We have to write reports for these meetings?" (To be delivered.)

#### Secretary: Danny Waldman

Hello and hi to everybody and all of you - as you may well have seen or noticed, the termcards have finally arrived (although somehow we've not ended up paying with money for them thus far? it's such a kerfuffle) so please do make good use of them for mopping up tea stains, for eating food off of etc. Otherwise a fairly peaceful, tranquil, serene, quiet JCR week for me, finals year has hit like a large, heavy, forceful truck but should be back in the saddle shortly in the very near future for

some constitutional stuff and things. Congratulations to Jess and Tom for their Presidential and Vice-Presidential successful victories. Secretarial love and hugs and kisses and affection x

#### President: Christina St Clair

This is the penultimate report from me  $\otimes$  This has been a good fortnight for JCR shizzle. Had a big bunch of committees, talked about the medical nurse, disabled access rooms for disabled students, went to one of OUSU's councils and JCR President's Committee. I had my 21<sup>st</sup> this week and I had a somewhat important exam so not much to report otherwise. Sorry. <3 An absolutely massive congratulations to Jess and Tom - I'm sure you'll be a great, fantabulous, democratic duo!

#### iv/ Reps' reports

#### Alumni & Development Rep: Matt Smith

I became alumni and development rep but I still handed off all my responsibilities to Christina. She was not happy. (To be delivered.)

Art Rep: Fania Weatherby & Lauren Kennedy

(To be delivered.)

Bike Rep: Daniil Demishin

(To be delivered.)

Charities Rep: Cecilia Peker & Zoe Carmichael

In 3<sup>rd</sup> week we held an insightful Dementia Awareness session run by an alumna of St John's. I also took part in RAG's charity rep training session where we bounced ideas off charity reps from other colleges. From 5<sup>th</sup> week onwards we'll be trialling a weekly mailing list to let JCR members know about all the fantastic charity-related events around the university, with contributions from other reps. Things to look forward to: Charity Comedy Night in John's bar in 5<sup>th</sup> week and a charity formal hall exchange at Exeter college!

Computer Rep: Marius (To be delivered.) Disabilities Action Rep: Thomas Wadsworth (To be delivered.) DVD Rep: Charles Clegg (To be delivered.)

#### Ethnic Minorities Rep: Cameron Joshi & Rochelle Morrison

In the past week, a Facebook group, St John's Students of Colour, has been set up as a forum for students of colour in college to discuss pertinent issues and share relevant events and articles of interest. We are also looking to put on another Race 101 workshop for the JCR (following on from the one for freshers which was held in 0<sup>th</sup> week) if there is demand. Plans are also underway for an Ethnic MinoriTEA to be held in 6<sup>th</sup> week, which will serve as a safe space for students of colour to meet one another and discuss any issues they might be facing over tea and cake J

International Students Reps: Syrie Byfield

(To be delivered.) LGBTQ Reps: Jacob Brennan & Jamie Jackson (To be delivered.) OUSU Rep: Michael Muir (To be delivered.)

PRAT: Alastair Graham

Since the last meeting, your PRAT has attempted to secure the £5 voucher promised by Dominos in compensation for them running out of Ben and Jerry's icecream which they offered as part of a deal on the last order. I am pleased to report that the quest for the missing blue ball has now been resolved. The toys this week will include a selection from the first and second meetings of term, and again I would like to remind everyone to offer me children's charity suggestions in Oxford for their donation at the end of term. Your PRAT has ordered potato wedges again for those vegans in the People's Republic of St Giles who wish to snack in the meeting. The Kingdom of Beans remains a solvent kingdom with the budget being carefully looked after so that there should not be any overspending.

Live Long and Prosper. \\//

#### **Returning Officer: Will van Duzer**

This week I've been working on the JCR Presidential elections (along with some generous help from Ria and Dan) and by the time this report goes out we should hopefully have a new JCR President and Vice-President. Nominations for general committee positions will open in one week's time so now is a great time to start thinking about running!

#### Sports Rep: Jenny Smith

In the last two weeks I have restored the bike scheme. I have also started talking to Ian (the grounds keeper) to organise a BBQ for St John's sports players and supporters. I have been in contact with the John's sports' captains to try and think of ways to encourage more participation and support for St John's Sports.

#### v/ Ratifications

#### vi/ Items for discussion

## vii/ Agenda Items a/ The "TV room is cold, lets get some blankets" Motion

Proposer: Matt Booth Se

Seconded: Claudia Hill

This JCR notes that:

- a. The TV room gets quite cold
- b. People like warmth

This JCR believes that:

c. People should be warm whilst watching TV

#### This JCR therefore resolves to:

d. Spend £70 on 4 blankets for the TV room

### b/ The "Committee meal" Motion

Proposer: Jake Hurfurt Seconded: Danny Waldman (ex officio)

#### This JCR notes that:

- a. The JCR Committee volunteer a huge amount of their free time working for JCR Members
- **b.** It has been a lovely tradition to send the Committee on a meal to say thank you at the end of their tenure

## This JCR believes that:

c. The Officials of the JCR deserve a night of food and banter for their hard work

## This JCR therefore resolves to:

d. Remunerate the JCR Committee with £425 (£25 per head for 17 Officers) to waste away at some eatery

## c/ Motion to fund BARS bringing Cecile Emeke to Oxford

## Proposer: Rochelle Morrison Seconder: Sam Kim

## This JCR notes:

- 1. The Black Association of Rhodes Scholars (BARS) annually hosts a speaker at Rhodes House in honour of Black History Month in October or November.
- 2. This year, they are hoping to bring Jamaican-British filmmaker Cecile Emeke to speak.
- 3. Cecile Emeke has been featured in the <u>New York Times</u>, the <u>BBC</u>, and <u>OkayAfrica</u> for her cinematic work on the black diaspora and efforts to <u>decolonise film</u>.
- 4. This event will (hopefully) be on November 20<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm and will feature a screening of Emeke's short film 'Ackee and Saltfish', with a facilitated discussion and audience questions afterwards.
- 5. Emeke's short film series 'Strolling' (and its French, Dutch and Italian counterparts 'Flâner', 'Wandelen' and 'Passegiando') features a wide range of discussions from members of the black diaspora including feminist, disability, and LGBTQ+ issues issues relevant to many, but not given the platform it deserves.
- 6. This work, although incredibly important, is not particularly lucrative.
- 7. Cecile Emeke is requesting a £500 honorarium and travel expenses from London as payment for this event.
- 8. The JCR has previously contributed to funding other artists, such as DARKMATTER

## This JCR believes:

- 1. Our JCR should support black women, who are almost always a minority in their respective fields and are economically disadvantaged in our society.
- 2. Much of media discussion about blackness is from an American point of view, so work that centres Black British and diasporic perspectives is important.
- 3. The work of Cecile Emeke allows all liberation movements to make their work truly intersectional by listening to, and learning from, black voices.

## This JCR resolves:

1. To donate £100 to BARS for this event.

## viii/ Any other business

Danny Waldman JCR Secretary 7/11/2015